

DISTRICT II ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes – November 5, 2001

The District II Advisory Board meeting was held at 7 p.m. at the Calvary United Methodist Church. 2525 N. Rock Road. Approximately 200 citizens attended the meeting.

Members Present

Vice-Mayor Joe Pisciotte
David Babich
Kevin Bright*
Martha Bruce-Fair
Michele Chauncey
Charlotte Foster
Larry Frutiger
John Fuller
Tim Goodpasture
Shirley Jefferson
Mike Jones
Mike Pompeo

Members Absent

Kathy Wegner

City of Wichita Staff

Jim Armour, Public Works
Roy Johnson, Housing
Steve Lackey, Public Works
Officer Mike Lloyd, WPD
Donte Martin, CMO
Sgt. Allen Wolf, WPD

* Denotes alternate DAB member

Council Member Joe Pisciotte called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.

Charlotte Foster (Jefferson) moved the agenda be approved as submitted.
The motion passed (10-0).

Mike Jones (Foster) moved the minutes of the September 10, 2001 DAB meeting be approved as submitted. The motion passed (10-0).

No items were submitted for the public agenda, planning agenda, unfinished business agenda, or the traffic agenda.

New Business Agenda

1. Buttonwood Tree Apartments

Roy Johnson, Housing Services Director, presented this application for Low-Income Housing Tax Credits. Apartment purchasers are planning to renovate the 216 unit Buttonwood Tree Apartments, located at 9211 E. Harry, using Tax-Exempt Multi-Family Mortgage Revenue Bonds, as well as Low Income Housing Tax Credits. The total construction cost for the project is estimated to be \$1,620,000 and will include upgrading of the parking lots and driveways, improvement of the landscaping sprinkler system, improvements to bring the apartments into compliance with ADA requirements, new exterior siding, installation of washer/dryer hook-ups, updating of the security system, and other items required to bring the structures into compliance with local housing codes.

The buyer of the apartments will be seeking a resolution of support by the City Council for its application for low-income housing tax credits, thus a review is required by the applicable District Advisory Board, the Development Coordinating Committee, and the Housing Advisory Board prior to consideration of a resolution of support by the City Council.

In accordance with the City's Tax Credit Policy, at least 20% of the apartment units must be made available to market-rate tenants.

David Babich asked what is the current percentage of low-income residents living in these apartments. **Johnson** replied 78%.

John Fuller moved to recommend that the City Council pass a resolution of support for the project. The motion passed 10-0 (**Fair**).

Vice-Mayor Joe Pisciotte commented that supporting these types of projects is good public policy. He thanked Roy Johnson for his presentation.

Action Taken: DAB II recommends City Council adopt the resolution.

2. Rock Road Safety Belt Enforcement

The Wichita Police Department has been awarded a Kansas Department of Transportation grant, (KANSAS CLICKS) which provides money to participating departments to pay officers overtime to work to improve safety belt and child restraint compliance. The duration of the grant is through the fall of 2002. Four separate campaigns will be conducted on a city-wide basis.

Ten city-wide locations are chosen for each of the four campaigns. These locations have been chosen based upon the number of accidents which have occurred there. Patrol East has identified the following three locations for the November campaign.

- **3000-3300 N. Rock Road (Highest traffic accident location in the city)**
- 900-5600 E. Kellogg (7th highest traffic accident location in the city)
- 900-1200 S. Edgemoor

WHAT ACTIVITIES TO EXPECT

- Officers will observe traffic to count the number of drivers and passengers complying with safety restraint laws. (November 5th thru 10th 2001)
- A week-long effort to raise public awareness of the need seatbelt/child restraint compliance will take place. You may read articles in the paper, see signage or hear public service announcements regarding seatbelt compliance and driving habits. (Nov. 11 thru Nov. 17)
- A week-long intensive enforcement effort by Wichita Police Officers will take place at the above locations, as well as the other seven locations throughout the city of Wichita. Officers will not be taken away from their regular duties to perform these enforcement activities. Grant money will pay the officers to do this activity. (Nov. 19 thru Nov. 25)
- Officers will then once again observe traffic at these locations to determine if seatbelt usage has been improved. (Nov. 26 thru Dec. 1)

DATES OF CAMPAIGNS

- The following are the timeframes for the various campaigns:
 - November 2001 – Occupant Protection focus
 - December 2001 – Impaired Driving focus
 - February 2002 – Child Passenger Safety focus
 - September 2002 – Speeding focus

Action taken: Received and filed.

Board Agenda

3. Rock Road Improvements 22nd Street North to 29th Street North

Mike Lindebak, City Engineer, presented a design for improvements to the Rock Road corridor. These improvements are being considered based on the recommendations of the Rock Road Corridor Study conducted a few years ago. Each design incorporates suggestions from the corridor study in order to meet the needs of the 30,000 traffickers projected in the 2030 traffic plan.

Three different designs were presented during the August 20th DAB meeting. These designs included 5, 6, and 7 lane alternatives. It was decided after hearing concerns from citizens attending the August 20th

meeting that Public Works would continue meeting with neighborhood groups in order to develop a design that is acceptable to those most directly impacted.

A meeting was held October 3rd and representatives of the various adjacent HOA's were invited to provide input as the engineers developing this design sought to address identified concerns. Public Works, Planning, WPD, and CMO staff represented the City of Wichita.

As a result of this meeting a five-lane design was tentatively agreed upon. This five-lane design would incorporate traffic signals and deceleration lanes to address traffic issues. This design calls for opening a current cul de sac at Dublin Ct. in order to connect traffic from Greenbriar to a traffic light that would be emplaced at Oxford. Raised medians would be used as a safety feature. The medians would be landscaped similar to other median throughout Wichita.

Affected homeowner associations were invited to attend the DAB meeting and express their concerns with the project. Homeowner association concerns included: 1) changing property values; 2) will the medians be maintained by the City of Wichita; 3) whether Rock Road needs to be widened; 4) should Rock Road be widened to 7 complete lanes instead of 5; 5) will there be any additional traffic lights installed once the light at Greenbriar is removed; and 6) the anticipated start date for the project.

Steve Lackey, Public Works Director, and **Mike Lindebak** addressed each of the questions asked by citizens in attendance. The answers provided were: 1) there is no definite answer as to how property values will be impacted, but there will not be any assessments associated with this project; 2) the City of Wichita will maintain the landscaped medians; 3) Rock Road does need improvements in order to handle the traffic anticipated in 2030, provided by the City of Wichita; 4) 7 lanes were considered but staff feels this design will meet the 2030 traffic numbers; 5) this design calls for a light at Oxford that will meet warrants provided Dublin Ct. is opened; and 6) the project is scheduled in the CIP for 2004.

Phil Ryan, Penstemon HOA, expressed his feeling that a traffic light near Penstemon is still a necessity, but a light at Oxford that can be accessed via Dublin Ct. would provide relief.

Christine Ryan, Dublin Ct. HOA, expressed that Dublin Ct. is ardently opposed to creating an opening through this area. Ryan feels this would destroy a quiet, residential area, and place residents at risk.

Ron Black expressed support for a light at Oxford.

Representatives of **Bluestem HOA** were divided as to their feelings toward the project.

Vice-Mayor Joe Pisciotte suggested each HOA meet and develop an official opinion on the design. Pisciotte also suggested the various HOA's meet with each other and attempt to reach consensus. City staff will continue to meet with each HOA in order to help reach consensus. Pisciotte hopes the final design will meet the needs of not only those groups directly impacted, but also the needs of the community as a whole.

Vice-Mayor Pisciotte thanked everyone in attendance for sharing his or her concerns. **Pisciotte** expressed the need to balance the community's interests, both business and residential, as we design a safer thoroughfare that improves the quality of life of area residents.

Action taken: No action taken.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:15

Respectfully submitted,

Donte Martin
Neighborhood Assistant
District II